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By Way of Offering a Sentiment.

The Hon. NICHOLAS LONGWORTH of Ohio has been quoted as saying that the "reactionary" referred to in his great speech of a week or so ago was intended as a portrait of the misguided fumbler who does not subscribe to and advocate the policies of President ROOSEVELT. He may not have given the definition exactly in those terms, but it is so nicely applicable at all points, and the Hon. NICHOLAS LONGWORTH is such a clear headed and alert young statesman, that we are disposed to accept the interview in all its original beauty and significance. Moreover, and to filch from the luxuriant. argot of the boulevard, we ourselves are quite willing to let it go at that.

Mr. LONGWORTH, we assume, had reference solely to the President's policy in respect of our embassies and assorted diplomatic establishments in foreign lands; to the maintenance and, indeed, the increase of their present splendor; and we experience a profound and penetrating conviction to the effect that he was inspired by the simple, straightforward idea of enabling those establishments to reflect, if only in a pallid way, the state, the magnificence and the picturesque grandeur of the Washington palace which is, or ought to be, the exemplar of our methods and ceremonials abroad. Viewed in this light, any reversion to the mean spirited if not shabby observances of LOWELL, PHELPS, BAY-ARD, EUSTIS, BANCROFT, MOTLEY and so on, must necessarily be regarded as a national humiliation, painful to all our European "colonies," and literally irreverent as regards the unmistakable initiative of the White House. In our opinion Mr. LONGWORTH put it most indulgently when he described it as a tendency of

Looking over the field of American diplomacy as illustrated by our embassies and legations in distant lands, we can easily believe that the smallest relaxation in point of pageantry would operate an intolerable affront to President ROOSEVELT and a deep affliction to the deserving expatriates who envelop our diplomatic activities in a riotous demonstration of solicitude. We realize without the slightest effort the imperative importance of attracting-of course through the medium of food, display and other kinds of entertainment-the most imminent of all, there is the opportunity of utilizing our military attachés them to receive and to announce the noble trenchermen, look after their wraps, &c., and generally arrange the details of precedence in the illustrious

Much better this than spying upon a hospitable land and surprising secrets of the Government. It might be more dignified, but at least it would be innocent And finally, it would offer to the President that homage of imitation which is justly regarded as the finest form of compliment. To employ our military attachés abroad precisely as he employs them here at home will be to illustrate the ultimate revelation of human wisdom and propriety, and incidentally to solve a very pressing, not to say mys-

Permit us to propose, with the utmos respect, of course, the ever hallowed sentiment: "On with the dance! Let Thingumbob be unconfined!"

The Alleged Train Bands of Union Labor in Pennsylvania.

It will not do to take too seriously, until further information is forthcoming, the report from Washington that, according to information furnished to the War disinterested onlookers will be apt to Department by Captain HENRY H. WHITNEY of the Coast Artillery, certain labor union men in Pennsylvania, notably in the coal regions, have "organized independent military companies, which are secretly armed and drilled, and whose purpose is evidently to oppose the National Guard regiments in case of strikes or other labor troubles." Nor will it do to minimize the possibilities indicated by this report. It will be taken for granted that a Captain in the United States army would not make such serious charges unless he had every reason for believing them to be absolutely true, and so important as to call for special attention by the War Department. He further declares, according to the newspaper despatches, that there are at least thirty-seven such independent organizations, wearing a uniform like that of the regular army and that they are gradually and quietly acquiring arms, concluding that in his opinion "their active hostility to the National Guard forms a menace to State authority and

law and order." Just what will be the effect of this somewhat startling report cannot be determined as yet, but one thing is sure: The State of Pennsylvania is bound to stake a thorough and immediate invesfigation concerning the supposed conditions and to make public the results of the inquiry. The Keystone State has suffered enough in the eyes of the country because of the utterly disgraceful conditions that have too often prevailed in its coal regions in times past, when law, order and safety to life and limb have been cast aside for months on a stretch, and when the entire military powers of the When, therefore, the campaign closed Commonwialth, as represented in an the question before the voters was not

army of ten thousand men, have been unable to restore conditions invariable in a lawful, civilized community.

There is one curious condition in the anthracite regions that must be taken into account in this matter. Among the miners and mine laborers are scores of thousands of men from southern and eastern Europe who dearly love display, social and fraternal organizations, parades, brave colors, bands of music, and all that pertains to making a gay holiday. Perhaps a majority of all these Poles, Italians and Slavs belong to one or more beneficial orders; almost all of them, it is said, have served in the armies of Europe before they emigrated to this country. The habit of drill, the fun of parading, the sense of standing elbow to elbow in a closely knit organization, are inbred in them.

It may be explained further that not infrequently such organizations have for their primary purpose the fitting of the members for American citizenship, for spreading a true knowledge of American institutions, for bringing up their children to take their places as equal members of a great and free people. There is no doubt whatever as to these facts. The very language of some of the charters of such societies, as recorded at Harrisburg, proves the case. It is barely possible that Captain WHITNEY was not altogether fully informed in the matter about which he has reported to the War Department; but an officer who has served for more than fifteen years with unusual distinction in the United States army, who has been around the world in its service, who made a military reconnaissance of Porto Rico in disguisethereby furnishing information which was the basis of our military campaign in 1898-is not likely to furnish the War Department with a sensational report unless he has every reason for so doing.

If Captain WHITNEY is right it now belongs to the Governor and people of Pennsylvania to tell the rest of the country what they are going to do in the

The Executive Order of January 31, 1902.

On January 31, 1902, the President of the United States issued over his own signature the following Executive order, dated at the Wife House:

"All officers and employees of the United States of every description, serving in or under any of the executive departments, and whether so serving in or out of Washington, are hereby forbidden, either directly or indirectly, individually or through associations, to solicit an increase of pay, or to influence or attempt to influence in their own inter est any other legislation whatever, either before Congress or its committees, or in any way save through the heads of the Department in or under which they serve, on penalty of dismissal from the Government service."

The emphasis of the phraseology of this order marks the earnestness of its author. Its terms cannot be mistaken or its meaning misread. Yet Senator EUGENE HALE has laid before the Senate a document which indicates that the commissioned officers of the navy are engaged to-day in the very practices that their Commander in Chief condemned just five years ago next Thursday.

The document in question is a circular calling on each officer of the navy from midshipman up to write or telegraph to his Senators and Representative, urging | STRAUSS'S opera stands in a class of its titled, the wealthy and the eminent. And, them to use their influence for the pas- own. Mr. Connied recognized this fact sage at this session of the Navy Personnel bill transmitted to Congress with in all the Old World capitals by assigning a special message from the President on December 17. Not only are the officers besought to use their personal influence in behalf of this measure, but they are asked to enlist "influential friends at home" in the campaign. In fact, the whole machinery of the lobby is to be set in motion, in spite of the explicit prohibition of the President.

Senator HALE has offered a resolution directing the Secretary of the Navy to inquire whether the President's order has been violated by any officer or employee of the Department. The inquiry cannot be too strict.

France and the German Election.

According to a telegram from Paris the French press is almost unanimous in regarding the outcome of the German election as an emphatic indorsement of Emperor WILLIAM's foreign policy, exemplified in his interference with the affairs of Morocco, and therefore as highly disquieting to France and Great Britain It is natural, perhaps, that Frenchmen, who are constantly watching with anxiety their neighbor across the Rhine should regret to see German voters rallying to the support of their sovereign; but

draw an opposite conclusion. To recognize the real purport of the verdict recorded on January 25 at the ballot box we should keep in view the issue on which the contest ultimately turned. Throughout the campaign the Socialist newspapers strove to prove that the fundamental question to be decided at the polls was not whether the funds alleged to be needed for the defence of German Southwest Africa should be furnished, but whether the Reichstag should at last assert its constitutional right of giving or withholding assent to money bills instead of tamely complying with every imperial demand for an appropriation. It was because the Socialist newspapers managed to convince the Berlin correspondents of many foreign journals as to the pivotal character of this issue that the impression gained ground abroad that the Socialist strength in the Reichstag would be sensibly increased. Nor was it until shortly before the end of the campaign that Herr DERNBERG, the head of the Colonial Bureau, succeeded in demonstrating that if the voters should approve of the last Reichstag's refusal to make the requested appropriatlon for German Southwest Africa they would administer a deadly blow to the whole colonial policy of the empire.

From that moment it was certain that

those who see in colonies outlets for the

excess of Germany's population and for

her surplus products—such advocates of

colonial aggrandizement preponderate in

all maritime towns and in many manu-

facturing centres-would strain every

nerve to secure a majority for the Gov-

ernment in the next popular assembly.

whether they should signify a general approval of the Emperor's domestic and foreign policy, but specifically whether they should support his colonial pro-

gramme. Those Germans who hold that the Reichstag should assert hereafter its constitutional rights more firmly than it has asserted them in the past have lost nothing by the general election. On the contrary, they have gained; for almost all the seats lost by the Socialists have fallen not to the Reactionists or to thick and thin upholders of the imperial authority, but to National-Liberals or Radicals, who have striven for forty years to increase the power of the Reichstag by making the Imperial Chancellor, or at least his subordinate coadjutors, responsible to that body. If in the new assembly the Government wants votes enough to overcome a Centrist-Socialist coalition it will find the support of the National-Liberals and Radicals indispensable. It follows that it cannot afford to disregard their fundamental principles, which commit them to a demand for more self-government at home and for the assurance of peace abroad.

It is, then, an indorsement of colonial expansion and by no means an indorsement of a policy of aggression in Europe which has been given by German voters to Emperor WILLIAM. Suppose, however, that the expectations of onlookers had been fulfilled and that the Socialists had made so great gains as to render a Socialist-Centrist coalition irresistible in the new Reichstag. What would have happened then? Finding his prestige lowered and his plans of colonial aggrandizement frustrated, the Kaiser would have been strongly impelled to seek rehabilitation and expansion at the expense of his European neighbors, for by pursuing the latter course he would be enabled to arouse in his subjects the sentiment of patriotism and the instinct of self-preservation. The Emperor WILL-IAM is unlikely to forget the impressive proofs furnished in his lifetime of the consolidating effect of a foreign war. He knows that the triumph of 1866 over Austria saved BISMARCK from punishment for unconstitutional acts, and that the victories of 1870 not only reconciled Saxony to Prussian ascendency but caused even the South German States to join the North German Federation. Recourse to that grim expedient he has always had in reserve, and he might have employed it had he been decisively beaten in the recent contest at the ballot box.

As things have turned out Emperor WILLIAM has no temptation to adopt a policy of aggression and adventure. Thoughtful Frenchmen, therefore, should experience relief from the misgivings and apprehensions with which some of them have watched the outcome of Friday's elections.

The Case of "Salome."

The protest against further performances of "Salome" at the Metropolitan Opera House was without precedent in the history of that institution. Its energy is a sign of health. Stockholders in our opera houses have not interested themselves hitherto in the morals of operatio plots, for too exacting scrutiny in this direction might curtail the repertoire beyond all practical limits. But RICHARD when he wisely decided to produce it only (at special performances.

The European success of "Salome" does not prejudice Americans in its favor as a work of art, nor prevent them from taking the course they would follow in the case of any work essentially unfit for public performance. The history of this opera has been tainted from the outset with the strongest element of sensationalism. STRAUSS selected the subject with his unfailing scent. The attempts to reawaken interest in the works of OSCAR WILDE and to place him high among modern poets have succeeded better in Germany than anywhere else. No other theme of literature is just now so absorbing to that public; so STRAUSS found no text so well suited to his purposes as "Salome." The opera has passed triumphantly from one European operatic stage to another.

The reception of "Salome" abroad however, has no lesson for the New York public. Its success on the Continent merely indicates that a lower standard of taste and morals maintains wherever the work has been applauded. Although the Biblical origin of the story will always prevent its performance in London, it is fair to suppose that the same hostile public feeling would have been aroused there by the scenes which the opera depicts and the passions with which it is concerned, for they will always be of the kind that the English speaking nations find revolting when presented in public performances.

It is not important, however, to consider what other countries may think of the action of the stockholders of the Metropolitan Opera House. It is enough that the air everywhere within twenty miles of that house of music will be better to breathe with "Salome" gone.

The Girls and the Plain People in

Congress. We love to drop into the House when the Agricultural Appropriation bill is under way. Then Representatives build bonfires of words in honor of the tillers of the soil and renew their devotion to the sacred soil of their districts. It is

good show. One brief word of thanks to the Hon, JAMES RUTABAGA MANN of Chicago, His analysis of blue grass seed and alfalfa, his falcon eye for trefoil and burr clover, have gained the absolute confidence of the simple swains of Cook county. The story that Mr. MANN believes alfalfa and alpaca to be one and indivisible is a base invention of corporate interests.

The Hon. JAMES WHETSTONE OVER-STREET of Sylvania, Ga., spoke warmly for "the men behind the plough":

" But, sir, the plain working people, who are the mainstay of the nation's wealth, are reading the despatches that are sent from this capital giving a daily record of what Congress is doing, and they will demand a more satisfactory reason than has yet been given why the members of this House, with the impetuosity of young schoolboys, rush about in wild confusion eager to increase their own pay and in the next breath turn an unwilling ear to legislation designed to benefit the honest voters who sent them here. It is not right, and the day of reckoning will come when the people will rise up in their might and hurl from power the unfaithful Representative who legislated in his own selfish interest and neglected the interests of the people whom he was elected to serve." [Loud applause.]

Plain notice to the wretch who tries to lop the Plain Workers' Appropriation

The Hon. WILLIAM RICHARDSON of Alabama deplored the disappearance of the mocking bird. Mr. RICHARDSON forgot that "splendid songster," Colonel JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES.

The Hon. EZEKIEL S. CANDLER, Jr., of Mississippi paid the usual "tribute" to the speeders of the plough and ballot:

"Indeed and in truth the farmer is a patriot and public benefactor, because in helping himself he helps everybody else, and is the foundation rock upon which this whole structure stands; and it is by his brawn and honest muscle that the development of the country has been produced, not only in his own line, but in every other line."

Nothing was too good for them. "The arm of the Government should go out cheerfully at all times" to them. Mr. CANDLER pictured the discomfiture of the Representive who, with increased pay in his pocket, was enjoying "the luxuries, the pleasures and comforts." and yet had taken from "the honest old farmer" the "single package of garden seed." We should like to linger among the honest old farmers, but here's metal more attractive:

"Mr. LAMB-Should this amendment provail, what will become of the provision carried in the other bill for the distribution of flower seed, and how will you and I send our pretty girls any flower seed?

" Mr. CANDLER-We will not have any flowe seeds to send to the pretty girls, and they will look longingly with their bright and smiling faces, anxiously desiring the flowers, but we will be compelled to say 'No' to the sweetest, noblest and best of all Gon's creation, a pure, beautiful girl. [Applause.]

" Mr. CLAYTON-Except a white haired old lady. who is just as sweet and lovely. " Mr. CANDLER-Yes."

The Agricultural Appropriation bill is not only good in itself, but it brings out all the finer feelings of the House.

We cannot believe the report that Mr. BRYAN, insatiable of expression and finding himself unrelieved by his weekly, is to start a magazine. He needs a morning and an evening daily, all editorial, to utter even a small part of the thoughts that arise

England's experimental battleship Dreadnought is in the way of winning immortality by furnishing a new common noun to the anguage. At first the monster war vessels of her type were described by the phrase "of the Dreadnought class." Apparently this has proved too clumsy for constant use, and in the Naval Intelligence office summary of foreign naval programmes, attached to the report of the House Committee on Naval Affairs, the Russian Government is reported to "contemplate the immediate acquisition of a squadron of four dreadnoughts." This is easier write or speak than "four battleships of the Dreadnought class," and conveys as clear and distinct a meaning as the longer expression. It is a good enough word, and if it is needed, there is no reason why it should not be adopted. The monitor is a precedent.

The Speaker—The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Sullivan) asks unanimous consent to print in the Record a protest from leading citizens of the United States against the growth of militarism.
Mr. Parne-Mr. Speaker, I object.-From the Congressional Record of January 26.

The tame submission of the Hon. JOHN A. SULLIVAN to the veto of the Hon. SERENO PAYNE justifles the opinion that Mr. SULLI-VAN himself is not disturbed by the growth of militarism in the United States, and that he was personally conducting the protest of "leading citizens" by request. In Mr. SULLIVAN'S Boston district those who do not call themselves leading citizens are not affrighted by militarism anywhere. Few. very few, of Mr. SULLIVAN'S supporters are haunted by the spectre of war. Indeed, they volunteer for it on the jump when it comes. We suspect that most of the "lead ing citizens of the United States" who wanted to get into the Record are residents of eastern Massachusetts and members of the Anti-Imperialist Society. Why not print their protest in the report of the annual meeting, where it would look natural?

Mr. Hammerstein Not a Candidate. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In THE SUN of January 27 "several" of the directors of the Conried Opera Company are quoted

as saying in reference to a possible candidate as a successor to Mr. Conried: Oscar Hammerstein had never been thought of as director under any circumstances and did not which a manager must possess.

The use of my name in this matter by "sev eral" of these directors is audacious and im pertinent. As the sole owner of the Manhattan Opera House, and as the sole director of a grand opera company which within a few weeks has established itself firmly as one of the great musical institutions of the world, I am not apt to be "looking for a job" in the Metropolitan Opera House

OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN. NEW YORK, January 28.

American Cottons at Shanghai.

At present there is a great congestion of American otton piece goods at Shanghai, says Special Agent W. A. Graham Clark of the Bureau of Manufactures Sales cannot be forced except at great reduction in price. There is usually, however, a big marke for American piece cotton goods in China. Ever now, in spite of economic disasters and monetary troubles, there is a remarkable latent buying power After the Boxer disturbances a demand sprang up and the stocks at Shanghai melted quickly

away. So it will be again. One trouble with American goods shipped to Shanghai from San Francisco, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland or Vanouver is that the ships of the through lines carry ing from those ports have to lie outside the bar seventeen miles from Shanghai and discharge int lighters, which increases the expense.

Special Agent Clark did not find the complaint:

of "bad American packing" to have much founda-tion. It seems that the compradors, Chinese intermediaries, are allowed as perquisites all ropes of ords not absolutely necessary to hold the goo together; consequently on reshipment up country they arrive sometimes in bad condition. Though light burlap is used, Mr. Clark did not see any bale actually open. Some of them, however, were torn so that the contents were likely to be soiled

handling.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Some of you correspondents who have written on the Kingston incident try to show that the bad treatment o Americans was not official, or that only one official could be charged with bad treatment. The trust is that boorishness and brutality were experienced at the hands of officials and non-officials. Swetten ham typifying the official "hog" and Parsons, Jone and others representing the everyday Englishman who under the thin veneer of pretence and expediency hates the American people and despises form of government under which we live. Our people in Kingston were clamoring fo luxuries, were they? Was not the bare dock good enough for our women and children? What right

had they to ask for water? The English have been telling us for years that "blood is thicker than water." We did not ask for their blood at Kingston, and they refused us even the water. JOSEPH J. ADAMS. NEW YORK, JANUARY 28.

FRIENDLY JAPAN.

Only a Small Element in the United States

Looking for Trouble. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The uestion of who among the nations of Europe would aid and who would oppose the United States in case we were involved in a war with the Alaskan fur seal question. The pro-Japan is purely academic. The poss fessor, who is enthusiastic in his denunciation of the North American Commercial

of such a war is very remote indeed. If such a war ever does take place we should proba-bly be to blame for it. From many years sidence among the Japanese I know that there is universal good will and sincere adon and friendship among all classes of the Japanese people for the United States. They have always looked upon us as a just and fair people and are particularly grateful for the fact that we have aided them by encouragement, sympathy and in still more substantial ways to attain their present post tion of equality with the first nations.

If we ever lose the friendship and good will of the Japanese people it will be because we wantonly throw them away. They them elves are an eminently rational people. In their national affairs passion and prejudice are never permitted to carry away those who are in control. They will never ask of us what is not just and right, or if they do they will quickly recede when they are shown to be in the wrong. They will do more than that; the yield a great deal that they should not be asked to yield before they would take up the gage of battle. However, no one who really knows the Japanese can doubt that they will fight even the United States rather than yield that equality among nations for which they have had to pay so heavily and which the United States itself aided them to attain. They ought to fight us if we ever pursue ourse so unreasonable and unjust

It cannot be questioned that a certain ele ment in this country is so narrow minded and so prejudiced that it would not hesitate to treat Japan with unendurable contempt Is is to this class that the San Francisco school affair, the talk of a Japanese exclusion bill and various malicious newspaper paragraphs are to be credited.

As for the San Francisco school affair it is strange that but very few papers have ever seemed to understand what it is that the Jap anese resent. If the San Francisco authorities had provided an age limit for the various grades of their schools and this had been found to exclude certain Japanese young men there would have been nothing to say If they had not funds or room or for any reason or no reason decided not to admit the children of unnaturalized residents, and this had been found to exclude most or all of the Japanese children, nothing would have been said by the Japanese. They could have said nothing because they would have been receiving the same treatment that all other foreigners were receiving. To decide that all other foreign children might attend the public schools in their neighborhoods, but that the Japane children should be segregated, was a clear case of race discrimination, at once unjust to the children and insulting to the Japanes people. One of the most curious things about this regulation was the fact that the president of the school board which enacted it was Aaron Altman, a member of a race which has for centuries been subjected to the bitterest persecution born of this same type of irrational race prejudice.

As for an exclusion act, it would be a direct violation of our treaty with Japan and would bring about a condition of affairs that a lover of both countries hates to contemplate. No such act will ever be passed while President Roosevelt remains in power, nor after ward, unless the Government gets into the hands of the most reckless and unreasonable our people. If Mr. Taft and Mr. Bryan are rival candidates at the next election we can feel assured that the new President would never sign such a bill. If, however, such a bill were passed and signed Japan would be compelled to retaliate and a situation would arise which might easily lead to war. Clearly would be to blame for such a war.

That a certain element, small no doubt deliberately and maliciously strives to sow the seeds of ill will toward the Japanese is plain to any one who watches the public press It is this element which circulates such lies as that the Japanese Government is secretly sending Japanese soldiers to Hawaii under the guise of laborers; that great quantities of rifles are shipped in the same way: that Japanese military officers are caught sketching our forts in the Philippines, and like items ad nauseam. This element gives a sinister twist to every bit of Japanese news, and in connection with the San Francisco school affair it has been especially busy in circulating misinformation calculated to prejudice our

people against the Japanese. But it will take a course of action upon the part of our Government and people that is in every way unreasonable and unjust to destroy the friendship of the Japanese people and force their Government to look and treat us as an enemy. They will never fight us save in self-defence. I do not believe the elements mentioned above will ever be able to force us into an aggressive and unjust war, or that the Anglo-Japanese alliance will ever be directed against the United

NEW YORK, January 28.

A New Zealand Case.

J. W. DOUGHTY.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Let me add one to the precedents cited in The Sun to support Admiral Davis's action in landing men-o'-warsmen at Kingston. In January, 1885, I served in the United

States steamship Iroquois, then lying at Auckland, New Zealand, A fire started in some lumber yards about midnight. The then Captain (now Rear Admiral) Yates Sterling did not wait for any elaborate invitation, but landed fifty bluejackets, who were extremely useful in taking shipping out in stream, unbending sails from vessel which could not readily be moved, taking furniture and valuables from houses in the immediate vicinity of the fire district.

The assistance rendered was considered so valuable by the people of the city that the officials corresponding to our Board of Aldermen passed a resolution thanking the Captain and praising the work of the crew and presented the ship with a framed en grossed copy of their resolution. This was in striking contrast to the unmannerly, beggarly conduct of the person of the picturesqu JAMES N. DOUGLASS, Chief Master at Arms, U. S. S. Tennessee

LEAGUE ISLAND, Philadelphia, January 26

McKinley Day.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Referring to the letter of "C. R. S." in THE SUN of January 26, urging the observance of the late President McKinley's birthday on January 29, permit me to suggest that we all dis play from our flagstaffs on that day the Stars and Stripes as a tribute to the memory of one of God's noblemen whose name is borne in reverential respect by all good American B. S. OSBON.

NEW YORK, January 28.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: You stated in an article on duelling in France that bendy blades and light charges are occasionally used there. Your correspondent Mr. Breck contradicts this. He says that "such appliances for re ducing the risk are never used in France, because it would imply an insult to the courage of the Mr. Breck has perhaps watched these duels from

before rather than from behind the scenes. It is true, as your article said, that such modifications of the danger are never adopted with the knowl In another point Mr. Breck is in apparent rather

than in real disagreement. He writes, "The rule of 'first blood' does not prevail in France." Technically speaking, that is correct, and I observe that probably for that reason you used the Italian expression "primo sangue." This rule, however, may be introduced by special agreement, as it was it he Orleans-Turin meeting, and further than that it often happens in practice, as Mr. Breck truly re marks, that the French code is interpreted in the

NEW YORK, January 28.

Knicker-Is your suburb accessible? Subbubs-Oh, yes, it's easy to get out there; th

Terrible Example. Knicker—Is he a victim of alcohol? Booker—Yes, his wife has the channe dish habit,

ules of argument. His course led Gen. "the Grosvenor to characterize him as most insulting and contemptible witness he had ever heard before the committee he had ever heard before the committee.

Mr. Grosvenor's characterization of the
professor was seconded by Chairman Payne
and Mr. Dalzell, who frankly told him that
he was not helping his case by the sort of
statements he persisted in making in referring to his compensate as "parjured

PROF. ELLIOTT REBUKED.

Members of House Committee Said He

Was Insuiting Witness

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.-The Committee

on Ways and Means this morning had an-

other session with Prof. H. W. Elliott on

Company, which has a contract with the

Government for seal fishing, refused re-

peatedly to conform to the committee's

statements he persisted in making in referring to his opponents as "perjured scoundrels and pirates."

After Prof. Elliott had persisted in reading a mass of evidence submitted before the Hague tribunal in the case of the capture of the schooner James Hamilton Lewis by the Russian Government for piracy, none of which has been disputed, the committee decided to conclude the hearings on the Southard resolution for the further protection of the fur seals. Action upon the resolution will be taken by the committee at a later date.

THE ROMANCE OF A PIGMY.

The Story and Its Sequel TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Some nonths ago the newspapers had their say, and he various humane organizations and individuals their way, with that interesting

pigmy from the Congo, Ota Benga. It may be f interest to your readers to know the undorned truth concerning the adventures of this little man who is supposed to have been incarcerated in the monkey house at the Bronx Park Zoo and to have been rescued refrom through the efforts of philanthropic and religious organizations. The whole thing seemed so incredible to me

at the time of the happenings, that I took the trouble of inquiring into it, and beg to present herewith the versions of the affair as vouched for by Mr. S. P. Verner (who brought Ota Benga from the Congo) and by Dr. W. T. Hornaday, director of the New York Zoological Park and one of the most prominent zoologists in the world. What I have learned is as follows:

Some years ago Mr. Verner went to Africa on behalf of a group of Southern gentlemen who were interested in ascertaining whether a colony could be established in the to which as many American negroes might emigrate as desired to do so. When the St. Louis world's fair drew near Mr. Verner brought over here five pigmies and four natives of usual stature, in order that visitors to the fair might see them and compare them. Newspapers and the general public were so interested in the pigmies that when the St. Louis exposition closed Mr. Verner received, as I understand it, an offer of \$5,000 a week to exhibit the pigmies in Madison Square Garden for a term of weeks: also he received an offer equivalent to \$4,000 a week to exhibit them in London. Having brought the pigmies and other natives to this counfor a purpose distinctly other than that of a dime museum exhibition clined the offers and took his people back to the Congo, where they landed safe and sound and in good health in their homes. the pigmies who had become attached to Mr. Verner and who had thoroughly enjoyed his sojourn in America was Ota Benga, about whom such tremendous pother was aroused York a few weeks ago. When h learned that Mr. Verner was to return to this country last autumn he begged very hard to be taken along. Mr. Verner was very glad to bring him, as he also was hither two rare chimpanzees, and he knew that on the long voyage from Africa Ota Benga, better than any other person, could preserv the comfort and health of the chimpanzees Mr. Verner, disliking a repetition of the pub licity attendant upon his St. Louisexperience, requested the steamship officers to quiet about Ota Benga's presence on ward, and they kindly acceded to this request, so that several weeks elapsed after the pigmy reached New York with the chimpans fore the newspapers got hold of the fact of his arrival here.

When Mr. Verner took the chimpanzees o the Bronx Park Zoo Ota Benga went with them, and he handled them so successfully that Dr. Hornaday immediately hit upon him as the best person in the worldtainly the best person outside of Africato arouse the interest of and amuse the primates in the Zoological Garden. Mr. Verner had intended to take Ota Benga to South Carolina and give him a home on the plantation of a relative, where the little fellow could run around in the open air most of the year and could have such instruction as he needed and could perform light tasks for which he was admirably fitted. But Dr. Hornaday urged that Ota should accept job from him at the Zoo, agreeing to fit him up with comfortable quarters in a well furnished keeper's room in the primate house, to see that he had plenty of food and clothing, and in return for his expert services as a keeper's helper to put him on the payroll at adequate wages. Mr. Verner plained the situation to Ota Benga, told him that since he had been admitted to this country he could do as he chose, that nobod could order him around, and that he could either go to South Carolina on the plan tation or enter into employment under Dr. Hornaday. With rare intelligence the pigmy decided that the place for him was to stay there in the monkey house, where the temperature was kept at an equivalent of

the Congo temperature, where everything was done to prevent the primates from suffering during the winter weather, and so on.

After seeing that his pigmy friend was comfortably established under the eye of Dr. Hornaday, Mr. Verner went South for a visit; and during his absence the eruption took place.

comfortably established under the eye of Dr. Hornaday, Mr. Verner went South for a visit; and during his absence the eruption took place.

It happens that a certain hour of each warm day some of the primates are allowed to step from the monkey house into the large exercising quarters, where they can get fresh air and sunshine and have a change of surroundings. One day Ota Benga was temporarily in the cage looking after the chimpanzees when the time arrived for themto be allowed to go into the exercising quarters. The door separating their cage from these quarters was opened and they stepped in, followed a moment later by Ota Benga, who was absolutely unconscious of anything except that he was to look after the rare and valuable little creatures in his charge. The usual crowd of sightseers was waiting, and when Ota Benga appeared they thought he was a darky confined with the monkeys, and set up a howl. When employees of the Zoo explained that Ota was a pigmy who had come from the very region where these chimpanzees had been captured the visitors became intensely interested, and the next day and the next the crowds increased so much that the keepers put up a sign mentioning the hour when Ota Benga and the chimpanzees would appear in the exercising quarters. By this time the newspapers had got hold of the story, which was telegraphed all over the country, and Mr. Verner came up from South Carolina on the jump. The first thing he did was to have the sign taken down, and the second thing was to gasp in meaning but uninformed persons were bombarding the Mayor, the Aldermen, howling for District Attorney Jerome to act, demanding why General Bingham did not do something with the police force, and otherwise making themselves somewhat conspicuous without having inquired into the facts of the situation. As soon as it became manifest that the management generously suggested that they would care for Ota Benga temporarily, and colored orphanage in Brooklyn, whose management generously suggested that they would care for Ota B

home with Mr. Verner in the course of five or six weeks.

It appears to the writer that the person to be sympathized with is Dr. Hornaday, who has lost the services of the man who could have interpreted the thought and explained the actions of the primates at the zoo, and thus might have added to our scientific knowledge of these manike creatures. PLEASANTVILLE, N. Y., January 28.

THE MORIBUND CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 .- If Congress were o attempt a thorough cleaning up of all the matters which are now under consideration, and a few others which ought to ba considered, it is doubtful if the job could be completed inside a twelvemonth. Less than thirty working days remain of the present session. Unless the present pace materially accelerated the fourth day of March will find the Fifty-ninth Congress at its end with little done except routine business and much left undone that should be done. While this is almost a conventional comment on the work of all short essions, it is probable that there has never peen an ampler justification for it.

The appropriation bills will be condered and passed. They always are beause they always must be. Some have een reported from the House committees in which they originate and have gone on their way to the Senate. Others are prepared for report as soon as the House s ready to take them up. Some of them will go through with only brief consideration, while others will probably excite an active and perhaps protracted discussion Yet if there be granted to them all a record breaking speed, little time will be left for the consideration of other matters.

In various harbors of temporary deposit there lie an infinite number of bills of minor importance to the country as a whole but of great importance to localities and individuals and a formidable number of bills of importance to all. Few of these are at all likely to reach the desk of the Executive for his signature before the session closes. For some a few days of grace are possible. The senate might be called in extra session for its action on a Santo Domingo treaty and a trade convention with Germany, although a doubt might be raised concerning the latter by reason of claims that it is a measure affecting revenues and therefore requiring consideration by the House as well as the Senate. But the long list which includes such matters as immigration, ship subsidy, Philippine tariff, anti-injunction, eight hour laws, child labor, the railway employees bill and others of interest and importance gives little promise of being materially shortened before the doors are closed behind the Fifty-ninth Congress.

Even the most bulging optimism can see no chance for tariff legislation, although a few ardent souls are trying to give life to their half formed hopes for an extra session in which that matter might be taken up. The immigration bill, in spite of its manifest advantages, seems doomed to failure through disagreement on the illiteracy clause. The subsidy bill seems hopelessly tangled and the Philippine tariff bill, though not vet past hope, offers little encouragement to its numerous well wishers.

WAR ON SUNDAY THEATRES. Joint Meeting of Preachers' Association

to Consider the Subject. The ministers of New York discussed the Sunday opening of the theatres at a joint meeting vesterday of the Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist and other pastors' associations in the Marble Collegiate Church, at Fifth avenue and Twenty-ninth street. There were several speakers, including the Rev. Dr. R. S. MacArthur, Bishop Greer, Bishop Courtney and the Rev. Dr. William V. Kelley. Resolutions were adopted calling upon the city authorities to enforce the laws against Sunday theatricals.

Dr. MacArthur told his fellow ministers that the church people themselves were responsible for present conditions and spoke of one pastor who dropped into a Sunday night concert after his church services were over and found more of his people at the concert than had been present at the service. Dr. MacArthur said that Sundays were now usurped by the blanket newspapers in the morning, automobiles in the afternoon and social festivities in the evening, and he held that this condition could not prevail were not the members and

officers of Christian churches disloyal to the cause they professed. "We are hearing much," said Bishop Greer, "about the violation of the laws in different parts of our country by great corporations and others. How can the people of New York condemn these viola-tions when they are keeping silent about lawlessness in their own city? This silence does not, however, mean acquiescence

and it promises soon to be broken, when the people will speak so loudly that the doors of the Sunday theatres will be closed and kept closed."

Dr. Burrell announced a collection to help defray the expenses of the printing and other charges of the gathering, and some of the ministers, half audibly, objected to this innovation at one of their jected to this innovation at one of their Monday gatherings, but the plates were circulated. While the collection plates were circulating Dr. Burrell himself spoke, saying that the violation of the law by Sunday theatres was producing anarchy. In illustration he cited the opera "Salome." which he characterized as the exploitation

which he characterized as the exploitation of sensuality, written by a man whose name could not be mentioned in polite society because it is a synonym for unnatural crime and vice. The speaker wondered that any pure minded women could sit through the performance.

Just before the close of the meeting there was a motion that it consider also gambling. Dr. Burrell ruled that the meeting was called for one specific object and could not properly consider other matters, but he suggested that the men might wait and take up the other matter after adjournment of the regular meeting. Most of the men stayed and heard the report of a committee on the three bills report of a committee on the three bills which have been introduced in the Legis lature at the instance of District Attorney Jerome. The committee approved the bills except the one which made punishment for a violation of the gambling law a misdemeanor instead of a felony.

TESTING APPORTIONMENT LAW. Reargument Before the Court of Appeals

on the Merits of the Case. ALBANY, Jan. 28.-The validity of the law passed by the Legislature a year ago establishing new Senate and Assembly districts was attacked before the Court of Appeals to-day by attorneys representing clients in Richmond, Queens and Washington counties. The case has been decided by the courts in favor of the law, but in the highest court the decision was not given on the merits of the case, hence the re-

argument to-day.
In the former arguments before the lower court and before the Court of Appeals the constitutionality of the law was defended by the then Attorney-General, Julius M. Mayer. To-day the representative of Attorney-General Jackson, Deputy Attorney-General Decker, took exectly the opposite position and argued with the attorneys who contend that the reapportionment is unconstitutional.

tionment is unconstitutional. Senator Elon R. Brown argued in Sperrill case arising in Washington cour and E. L. Richards, Jr., and Edward B. Wi ney in the Pendleton and Payne cases from Richmond and Queens counties. The arguments in support of the validity of the law were made by former Attorney-General Mayer and former Senator Merton E. Lewis, who had appeared previously in the case it support of the position they took before

the court to-day. Proposed Tariff Commission

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 .- Representative Steenerson of Minnesota to-day introduced a bill providing that the President shall appoint a commission to inquire into the tariff question in all its phases, including the advisability of maximum and minimum duties. The commission is to consist of five members, not more than three of whom shall be members of any one political party.